

# MONTHLY NOTICES

## OF THE

### ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY.

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No. 3

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Dr. J. W. L. GLAISHER, M.A., F.R.S., PRESIDENT, in the Chair.

Ashton Charles Allen, 34 Kensington Palace Mansions, De Vere Gardens, W. ;

John Hind Bell, *Nautical Almanac* Office, 3 Verulam Buildings, Gray's Inn, W.C. ;

Walter Ernest Besley, 75 The Chase, Clapham Common, S.W. ;

James Henry Booth, F.R.G.S., Alton, Stoke-upon-Trent ;

Arthur Thomas Cooper, A.M.Inst.E.E., Rivenook, De Montford Island, Reading ;

Joseph Alfred Hardcastle, 38 Eaton Square, S.W. ;

Charles Summer Howe, Ph.D., Professor of Astronomy, Case Observatory, Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A. ;

William Gylby Hutchinson, Rock Lodge, Roker, Sunderland ;

G. F. Johns, Perth Observatory, Western Australia ;

James William Lowber, M.A., Sc.D., Ph.D., LL.D., F.R.G.S., F.R.Met.Soc. 113 East 18th Street, Austin, Texas, U.S.A. ;

H. Krauss Nield, Thorold Grove, Sale, Cheshire ;

Captain Michael Joseph O'Sullivan, 66 Fern Grove, Hartington Road, Sefton Park, Liverpool ;

Charles Tallent Spencer, A.M.Inst.C.E., La Quinta, Lyon Road, Harrow ; and

Rev. Charles Lakeman Tweedale, M.A., The Vicarage, Weston, near Ottley,

were balloted for and duly elected Fellows of the Society.

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The following Candidates were proposed for election as Fellows of the Society, the names of the proposers from personal knowledge being appended :—

John Waller Lawrence Child, Vernham, Merton Hall Road, Wimbledon (proposed by Col. E. E. Markwick) ;  
 José Comas Solá, S. Felipe, 29 S. Gervasio, Barcelona, Spain (proposed by A. Stanley Williams) ;  
 Rev. John Horsley Haslam, M.A. Cantab., Vicar of St. Saviour's, Denmark Park, S.E. (proposed by D. G. Simpson) ;  
 Joseph Lunt, B.Sc., F.I.C., Royal Observatory, Cape of Good Hope (proposed by Sir David Gill) ; and  
 Joges Chandra Ray, M.A., Professor of Physical Science, Cuttack, Bengal, India (proposed by U. Chandra Ghosh).

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Seventy-six presents were announced as having been received since the last meeting, including amongst others :—

Galileo, Opere, Edizio Nazionale, vol. 11, presented by the Italian Government ; 22 Charts of the international photographic chart of the heavens, presented by the Paris Observatory ; Wedgwood Medallion of Sir Wm. Herschel by Flaxman, presented by Sir W. J. Herschel ; Photograph from a portrait of Galileo by Sustermans, presented by Sir W. Huggins.

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*The Attraction of the Himalaya Mountains upon the Plumb-line in India.\** By Major S. G. Burrard, R.E., Superintendent of the Trigonometrical Survey of India.

1. In a paper read in 1895 before the Royal Society† the late General Walker advocated the employment of “groups” of astronomical stations for the purpose of eliminating the effects of local attraction at a central station. In the same paper he explained the preponderance of northerly deflections that prevails throughout India by the hypothesis that local attraction is producing a southerly deflection at Kalianpur, *the station of reference of the Indian Survey.*‡ In 1871 Archdeacon Pratt had come to the same conclusion ; in his “Figure of the Earth” he argues that an excess of density must exist near Kalianpur, for “the deflection

\* For further details see Professional Papers of the Survey of India Department.

† *Phil. Trans.* clxxxvi. 745.

‡ No absolute deflection is known for any place ; all deflections are relative to that at Kalianpur. The term “northerly deflection” denotes a deflection “more northerly than the deflection at Kalianpur.”